ties in income. Almost all the points of the Twenty Point Programme including Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), National Rural Employment Programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) are oriented towards the target groups in the rural areas. These programmes have been continued in the Seventh Five Year Plan with an accelerated pace with emphasis on agricultural growth, developing the potential of dry land agriculture and adoption of special measures to increase the productivity of small and marginal farmers.

Irrational Drug Formulation Sub-Committee

3151. DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some State Drugs Controllers are members of the Irrational Drug Formultion Sub-Committee of the Drugs Consultative Committee;

(b) whether it is a fact that the above sub-committee had recommended banning many drugs formulations, which were found safe and efficacious and licensed by the Drugs Controllers; and

(c) if so, the justification and sanctity of the recommendations of the Sub-Committee.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) The sub-committee of experts of the Drugs Consultative Committee examine the drug formulations from the angle of benefit and risk ratio, effectiveness and rationality of formulations including fixed dose combination of drugs in the context of present knowledge and data generated all over the world. Although some State Drug Controllers might have licensed certain formulations in the past as per the information of safety and efficacy available at that point of time, yet it may become necessary to review such formulations in the context of the present knowledge as per post-marketing surveillance and other information on drug formulations being generated all over the world. The review of marketed drugs has been a practice in many developed and developing countries.

Delay in LCA project

3152. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Comptroller and Auditor General has taken a serious view of the inordinate delay in the development of prestigious LCA Project resulting in cost escalation and under-utilisation of the capacity of HAL;

(b) what are the reasons for this inordinate delay;

(c) whether any foreign collaboration has been finalised; and

(d) by when will the LCA be commissioned and what will be its cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) The Comptroller and Auditor General of India, in their report on H.A.L. of 1987, have mentioned that there were delays in LCA project which contributed to under-utilisation of capacities in Bangalore Complex of H.A.L.

(b) Under the Project Definition Phase (PDP) there has been some delay due to the following:—

(i) Technical complexities;

(ii) Difficulties in evaluation of capabilities and proposals of foreign consultants and approvals of such proposals;

(ii) Teething problems in the establishment and operation of a new "inter-agency" working procedures which are required for LCA;

(iv) Budget allocations.